# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

ALAN PRESSWOOD, D.C., P.C.	
Individually and on behalf of all others	)
similarly situated,	)
	) Case No.
Plaintiff,	)
	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
vs.	)
	) Removal of Cause No. 15SL-CC01605
DR. MICHAEL P. FRITH and JOHN	) St. Louis County Circuit Court
DOES 1-10,	)
	)
Defendants.	)

## **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Defendant Michael P. Frith ("Defendant"), pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441, and 1446, hereby removes this action which has been pending as Cause No. 15SL-CC01605 in the Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division. In support of this Notice of Removal, Defendant states as follows:

### I. Procedural Removal Requirements Are Satisfied

- 1. Plaintiff Alan Presswood, D.C., P.C. ("Plaintiff") commenced an action by filing a putative Class Action Petition ("Petition") on May 8, 2015, in the Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri, styled <u>Alan Presswood, D.C., P.C., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. Dr. Michael P. Frith and John Does 1-10, Case No. 15SL-CC001605 (the "State Court Action").</u>
- 2. Defendant was served with a copy of the Petition and summons on June 2, 2015. Thirty days have not yet expired since this action became removable to this Court. Thus, this matter is timely removed. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

- 3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) and Rule 81-2.03 of the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, the complete file of the Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri, in this matter is attached to this Notice as **Exhibit A**.
  - 4. A true and correct copy of the Petition is attached herein in Exhibit A.
- 5. The pleadings and papers filed in this litigation are limited to the Petition, a Motion for Class Certification, documents relating to service on Plaintiff and a certificate of service for Plaintiff's pending discovery requests.
- 6. Pursuant to Local Rule 3-2-02, Defendant is contemporaneously filing a completed Civil Cover Sheet and an Original Filing Form.
- 7. Concurrent with the filing of this Notice, Defendant is serving this Notice on Plaintiff's counsel and filing a copy of the Notice with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri. In accordance with Local Rule 81-2.03, Defendant will file proof of filing the notice with the Clerk of the State Court and proof of service on all adverse parties.
- 8. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division, embraces the county in which the State Court Action is now pending. Therefore, venue is proper for this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 105(a)(1) and 1446(a).
- 9. By filing a Notice of Removal, Defendant does not waive any of its rights or defenses.

#### II. This Court Has Federal Question and Supplemental Jurisdiction Over All Claims

1. For its Count I, Plaintiff alleges that Defendant violated the federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. §227 ("TCPA"). Petition at ¶¶6-34. For Counts II-IV, Plaintiff asserts claims regarding declaratory relief, conversion and violations of the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act ("MMPA"), respectively.

2. This Court has original jurisdiction over this action, in part, pursuant to 28 U.S.C.

§1331 because Plaintiff's TCPA claim arises under federal law.

3. The United States Supreme Court, in Mims v. Arrow Financial Services, LLC,

stated that "because federal law creates the right of action and provides the rules of decision, . . .

a TCPA claim, in 28 U.S.C. § 1331's words, plainly 'aris[es] under' the 'laws . . . of the United

States." 132 S.Ct. 740, 748 (2012). The Supreme Court held that "Congress did not deprive

federal court of federal-question jurisdiction over private TCPA suits." *Id.* At 747.

4. Moreover, under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a), this Court has supplemental jurisdiction

over Plaintiff's claims regarding declaratory relief, conversion and violations of the MMPA

because these claims form part of the same cave or controversy as Plaintiff's TCPA claim.

5. Because this Court has original jurisdiction over Plaintiff's TCPA claim and

supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims regarding declaratory relief, conversion and

violations of the MMPA, this case is removable by Defendant. 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441(a) and

1441(c).

WHEREFORE, all of the requirements of 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441(a), and 1446 have

been satisfied, and Notice is hereby given that this action is removed from the Circuit Court of

St. Louis County, Missouri to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of

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Missouri, Eastern Division.

DATED: July 1, 2015

SL 1571061.1

Respectfully submitted,
SPENCER FANE BRITT & BROWNE LLP

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, the foregoing document was filed electronically with the Clerk of the Court, to be served by the Court's electronic notification system and served via U.S. Mail upon the following attorneys of record:

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